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WHAT'S DOING IN 4-H CLUB WORK

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A radio talk by R. G. Foster, field agent in club work for the Eastern States, through Station WRC and 36 other stations associated with the National Broadcasting Company, at 1:39 p.m. E.S.T. August 3, 1929.

One of the important events of the 4-H club year is scheduled for next month. It is the International 4-H Training School, which is to be held for the seventh time, September 9 to 21, at Springfield, Mass. The chief purpose of the school, as you know, is to give special training in club and community leadership for older 4-H club members, or former club members. One boy and one girl from each of 35 States and four Canadian provinces will be brought in for the two weeks of instruction.

I would suggest, by the way, that all club members keep this school in mind. Sometime you may have an opportunity to attend yourself. The school is sponsored and expenses are paid by Mr. Horace A. Moses, prominent paper manufacturer and a former farm boy. By 1932 - three years from now - Mr. Moses plans to bring in delegates from every State in the Union and from all Canadian provinces. That will mean more than a hundred boys and girls attending every year.

Among the courses offered at the school are leadership psychology; recreational leadership; 4-H club methods; and field practice in 4-H club and community organization.

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The Oklahoma 4-H judging team, winners of the recent International Contest, are doing a fine job as good-will ambassadors for 4-H club work on the other side of the Atlantic ocean. A letter that arrived the other day from Edward A. Foley, the American agricultural commissioner to England, tells about their trip. Here's the 4-H club part of the letter:

"The members of the Oklahoma team are continuing their work and Mr. Drew of the Ministry of Agriculture is accompanying them through England and is going with them on to the Continent. I had a long talk with Mr. B. A. Pratt today. He tells me that the boys have had a wonderful trip and have learned a great deal that will be of real value to them in the future.

"The Ministry here is delighted with the impetus the boys have given the movement here and I think that the reason Mr. Drew is going on to the Continent is to stir up interest there. The Ministry is more enthusiastic than ever and now contemplates getting the Continental countries interested in the contest and making the contest truly international."

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The season for state 4-H club weeks and camps is in full swing. Practically every state has held one, is holding one now, or has one scheduled within the next few weeks. I have attended seven camps this summer myself, in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, New



York, Virginia and North Carolina. 5,400 club members and local leaders attended these camps.

Events are also coming thick and fast during the coming two months. According to my calendar, the schedule from August 1 on is as follows:

Oklahoma annual 4-H round-up, Stillwater, July 30-August 2.  
North Carolina State 4-H short course, Raleigh, July 29 to August 3.  
Missouri 4-H club round-up, Columbia, August 5 to 9.  
Arkansas State 4-H Club camp, Fayetteville, August 6 to 9.  
Illinois 4-H club department at the State Fair, Springfield,  
August 17-24.  
West Virginia 4-H boys' camp, August 14 to 24, Jackson's Mill.  
Maryland club week. College Park, August 8 to 13.  
Camp Vail, Springfield, Mass. September 16 to 21.

Up in Rutland county, Vermont, there's a whole club of 15 members in jail. The jail, which is at Danby, is now being used for a more useful purpose than for housing criminals. The partitions are coming down, the bars are coming out, and civic improvement in the form of newly-organized 4-H club has taken possession. The cement walls are being treated with an attractive finish, curtains are fluttering in the breeze and comfortable furniture is taking the place of iron bunks. The whole place is being done over. Members of the club are carrying work in clothing, food, calf and garden projects.

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C. Baird Hammond, an 18-year old club boy of Englishtown, New Jersey owns a Holstein that averaged better than 2,000 pounds of milk a month for March and April. Essex Boelyn Sweet Segis, the cow's name, is a six year-old and according to hard improvement records, she has averaged 12,172 pounds of milk and 385 pounds of butterfat for each of the last three years of production. The average annual feed cost for Essex Boelyn Sweet Segis for the past three years was \$125, and the average net return above feed cost was \$258 a year.

Every 4-H club member and leader in the United States will be interested in the standard Massachusetts club work has set. Every county in the State except the county in which the City of Boston is located, and Nantucket Island, has one or more full time county club agents. One county has one full time agent; nine counties have two full time county club agents and one county has three and one has four full time agents. These 23 full time county club agents had more than 15,000 club members finish work last year. All but four of these agents are graduates of an agricultural college or university and 16 of the 23 are former 4-H club members. That's a real record boys and girls and they all started in club work just like you are doing now. Stick to it and let's make the best better in 1929.

